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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The main task of the Miasto-Projekt (City Project) planning office (formerly Biuro Odbudowy Stolicy) is to approve projects submitted for housing and industrial building from the technical and town planning point of view. Buildings erected by M.O.N. (Ministry of National Defense) do not come under the competency of Miasto-Projekt.
2. Approximately 5,000 workers are employed on the construction of the Palace of Culture and Art, which is scheduled for completion in early 1955. The workers are billeted in special housing settlements built for them in the suburb of Kolo and at Jelonki near Warsaw. Plans for the new "showy" quarter around the Palace of Culture and Art, which were submitted by the Poles to Moscow, were not approved. The Soviets produced another plan executed by Soviet architects.  although from the town planning point of view the Soviet plan is not as good as the Polish one, it is on the whole an improvement on the Polish plan as the new buildings will be better and more massive than those planned by the Poles, who were restricted on the grounds of economy. Particularly striking features in the new plans are the space allotted for air-raid shelters and the very strong foundations for the buildings. 25X1
3. Some 5,000 workers were employed on the construction of the Warsaw subway. So far only a few shafts with an average depth of 40 meters were constructed and the tunnels were made safe against caving in. Two shafts have been left open for research purposes ( dla celow badawczych). Parts of tubings supplied to Warsaw, and now in storage, will gradually be returned to the metal works for conversion into other goods.
4. The acute shortage of structural steel, bricks, cement, and joiners' materials continues. It is extremely difficult to obtain a licence for the latter materials, and even with one there is a long waiting list. When the material comes in, it is delivered in small lots and is of inferior quality.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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5. Air-raid shelters according to the new Soviet plan are to be 2.20 meters high. The ceilings will consist of a ferro-concrete slab 20 centimeters thick, with criss-cross reinforcement and covered with at least 20 centimeters of sand. All shelters will have two exits,, one in the building itself and the other outside it, to serve as an emergency exit in the event of the proper exit being buried. The same type of shelter has been adopted for all housing blocks to be erected in the future. Up to now, no special attention has been paid to reinforcement of basements and cellars which might be used as future air-raid shelters.

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